

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising the steps of:

receiving a query;

5 separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

tagging each EOC with metadata;

pattern matching each EOC;

calculating the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC; and

10 providing the EOC to a set of virtual buffers, each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises

15 a plurality of content channels.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises

a plurality of related stories delivered on a single channel at different times.

20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the query is received via a user interface.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the query is received via an Internet browser.

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6. The method of claim 1, wherein the query is received via an agent for pushing relevant information to a user based on a user profile.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises
5 at least one of:

Internet-based, intra-net based, and other online forms of news and

information resources;

video broadcasts;

radio broadcasts;

10 press release forums; and

financial forums.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the EOC comprise at least one of:

text;

15 video;

audio; and

digital media.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of creating virtual

20 summary buffers.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer;
 - applying a comparative analysis filter to remove redundant sub-elements;
 - 5 synthesizing summary digests by extracting context-preserving EOC, the EOC having a distance function value less than a predetermined value; and
 - presenting the results as summary digests.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the summary digests comprises color-coded
10 sub-elements of content based on the number of EOC containing that particular sub-element.

12. A system comprising:

a digest synthesizing application, wherein the digest synthesizing application, in response to receiving a query, separates a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC), tags each EOC with metadata, pattern

5 matches each EOC, and calculates the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC;

a result set manager, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for providing EOC to a result set; and

a result set, communicatively coupled to the result set manager, comprising a
10 set of virtual buffers, each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the digest synthesizing application
15 comprises:

a query handler, for receiving a query ;

an input filter, communicatively coupled to the query handler, for separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

20 a distance calculator, communicatively coupled to the input filter, for calculating the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC; and

a pattern-matching filter, communicatively coupled to the distance calculator, for pattern matching each EOC.

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14. The system of claim 13, wherein the digest synthesizing application further comprises:

a comparative analysis filter, communicatively coupled to the pattern-matching filter, for removing redundant sub-elements.

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15. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

a user interface; and

a user interface/event manager, communicatively coupled to the user interface and the digest synthesizing application, for receiving a user query from the user interface and presenting the result set to the user interface.

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16. The system of claim 12, further comprising an application programming interface, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for communicating with other applications.

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17. The system of claim 12, wherein the result set comprises:

a set of tagged EOC;

a set of virtual buffers, communicatively coupled to the set of tagged EOC; and

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a set of summary digests, communicatively coupled to the set of virtual buffers.

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18. The system of claim 17, wherein the result set further comprises a set of virtual summary buffers.

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19. An apparatus comprising:

a digest synthesizing application, wherein the digest synthesizing application, in response to receiving a query, separates a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC), tags each EOC with metadata, pattern

5 matches each EOC, and calculates the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC;

a result set manager, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for outputting EOC to a result set; and

10 a result set, communicatively coupled to the result set manager, comprising a set of virtual buffers for storing EOC less than a given distance value.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the digest synthesizing application comprises:

a query handler, for receiving a query ;

15 an input filter, communicatively coupled to the query handler, for separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

a distance calculator, communicatively coupled to the input filter, for calculating the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC; and

20 a pattern-matching filter, communicatively coupled to the distance calculator, for pattern matching each EOC.

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21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the digest synthesizing application further comprises:

a comparative analysis filter, communicatively coupled to the pattern-matching filter, for removing redundant sub-elements.

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22. The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising:

a user interface; and

a user interface/event manager, communicatively coupled to the user interface and the digest synthesizing application, for receiving a user query from the user interface and presenting the result set to the user interface.

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23. The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising an application programming interface, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for communicating with other applications.

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24. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the result set comprises:

a set of tagged EOC;

a set of virtual buffers, communicatively coupled to the set of tagged EOC; and

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a set of summary digests, communicatively coupled to the set of virtual buffers.

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25. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the result set further comprises a set of virtual summary buffers.

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26. A computer readable medium including computer instructions for driving a digest synthesizing application, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

receiving a query;

5 separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

tagging each EOC with metadata;

pattern matching each EOC;

calculating the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC; and

10 providing EOC to a set of virtual buffers, each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other.

27. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the plurality of
15 information sources comprises a plurality of content channels.

28. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of related stories delivered on a single channel at different times.

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29. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the query is received via a user interface.

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30. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the query is received

via an Internet browser.

31. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the query is received

5 via an agent for pushing relevant information to a user based on a user profile.

32. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the plurality of

information sources comprises at least one of:

Internet-based, intra-net based, and other online forms of news and

10 information resources;

video broadcasts;

radio broadcasts;

press release forums; and

financial forums.

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33. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the EOC comprise at

least one of:

text;

video;

20 audio; and

digital media.

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34. The computer readable medium of claim 26, further comprising computer instructions for a step of creating virtual summary buffers.

35. The computer readable medium of claim 26, further comprising computer
5 instructions for the steps of:

concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer;
applying a comparative analysis filter to remove redundant sub-elements;
synthesizing summary digests by extracting context-preserving EOC, the
EOC having a distance function value less than a predetermined value; and
10 presenting the results as summary digests.

36. The computer readable medium of claim 35, wherein the summary digests comprises color-coded sub-elements of content based on the number of EOC containing that particular sub-element.

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